

# THE NOR'WESTER

*The Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of Northwest Toronto*

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**May 2nd @ 10:30 a.m.**

**“Mosaic or Melting Pot? Can We Maintain National Identity in the Age of Globalization”?**

*David Furlong*

David will explore the modern anxiety over the loss of culture through immigration and industrialization. Do people look inward and seek counsel and refuge in their churches? Do they look outward and seek easy answers in right wing demagoguery?

We welcome back David Furlong, who was a member at Northwest and was Chair from 2002 - 2004. David was a regular contributor to the newsletter with his column, “The Belfry Bat”, which was thoroughly enjoyed! He has been a teacher for fifty years. David’s current passion is The Toronto Debating Society, because it offers the same opportunities as he found at Northwest, “a haven of reason and dialogue amidst the cacophony that passes for the social discourse these days.

**May 9th @ 10:30 a.m.**

**“Building Community Resilience for the Transition to a Low-Carbon Society: Implications for Faith Communities”**

*Blake Poland*

Blake will address the triple threat of environmental degradation, climate change and peak oil as an imperative and an opportunity to transition from an industrial growth society to a more life-sustaining alternative. The world-wide Transition Town movement is described as an example of a grassroots response that builds community and local resilience for the transition. Implications of this transition for faith communities will be considered.

Blake is a professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. He is co-director of the Environmental Health Justice in the City Research Network (Centre for Urban Health Initiatives) and is Co-founder of Transition Oakville ([www.TransitionOakville.ca](http://www.TransitionOakville.ca)) and Halton Green Screens eco-film series ([www.HaltonGreenScreens.ca](http://www.HaltonGreenScreens.ca)).

**May 16th at 10:30 a.m.**

**“A Personal Journey of Discovery with The Salvation Army: Seeing What Others Do Not”**

*Peter Restivo*

From TV writer, producer and director for ABC-TV’s “Good Morning America” in New York to a discovery of Toronto’s marginalized men, women and children through volunteer work with The Salvation Army, Peter Restivo has seen, first-hand, the great need of so many turned out on the streets and left behind and the difference even one person can make in lives close to home.

This multimedia presentation demonstrates one person’s journey of understanding about our brothers and sisters circumstances and needs.

Peter Restivo comes highly recommended from Grace’s parents who describe his presentation as being “fascinating & revealing”. Peter is the founder of PR Media Connection and has over 25 years of experience as a television producer and communications consultant. He was a senior producer of ABC-TV’s “Good Morning America”, along with several other shows. He is a four time Emmy award winner, a writer for numerous publications and the list goes on. Today he will be focusing on his volunteer work.

**May 23rd at 10:30 a.m.**

**Fellowship Sunday**

*All of Us*

Let’s all sit down to breakfast together on Sunday, May 23rd, at 10:30 a.m., served by the Membership Committee. Marilyn has an interesting hash brown recipe she’s been wanting to try for years, and there are rumours of sausages appearing too. Maybe you could offer to make a dozen muffins. If so, please let Marilyn know!

Following the breakfast, Elly and Barbara will Chair our Fellowship Sunday Meeting, where we will find out where we are financially. Please bring the Fellowship Sunday package with you that you will be receiving in the mail, which includes the Proposed Budget and pledge forms for 2010-11.

**Please see over for May 30th speaker information.**

**May 30th at 10:30 a.m.**  
**“Christians & Politics”**  
**Marianne Meed Ward**

It's an election year for our city (and maybe our country, too, knock on wood). Many issues will have profound spiritual and moral implications. What are they? Where should the faithful stand? How do you keep your head in the hurly burly of the political arena that most people call "A Blood Sport." We'll talk about that and more. Bring your questions and comments.

Marianne Meed Ward, a favourite speaker at Northwest, is a print and broadcast journalist (The Michael Coren Show, Toronto Sun), community organizer (Save Our Waterfront) and blogger (www.ABetterBurlington.ca). She is running for Burlington City Council (Downtown-Ward 2) October 25th.

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**SUMMER PROGRAMS**  
 \* It has become a tradition at Northwest to \*  
 \* enjoy some fun & different programs in the \*  
 \* summer, hosted by members & friends of \*  
 \* the congregation. Do you have some ideas \*  
 \* or would you like to host a program in July \*  
 \* or August? Please get in touch with Grace \*  
 \* (ufnwt@bellnet.ca) with your suggestions or \*  
 \* the date you would like to host a program. \*  
 \* The dates are: \*  
 \* July 4th August 8th \*  
 \* July 11th August 11th \*  
 \* July 18th August 22nd \*  
 \* July 25th August 29th \*  
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**GIANT YARD SALE**  
**At the Unitarian Fellowship of Northwest Toronto**

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2010  
*Rain of Shine*

Time: 9:00 a.m. to noon

Purpose: Fundraising for our 50th Anniversary Celebration

Items for Sale: Gently used household items, clothes and books. Furniture and much more!

*It is a great time for Spring Cleaning and you could help out the Fellowship by donating your old stuff. We welcome any contributions! Please place any items in the covered porch area at the back of the Fellowship.*

*If you are able to help prepare for the Yard Sale on Friday, May 14th @ 10 a.m. or can help sell on Saturday, May 15th @ 8 a.m., please sign your name on the sign-up sheet at the Fellowship or call or email Grace (ufnwt@bellnet.ca).*

**Workshop on Mental Health Issues**

The Pastoral Care Committee, at First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, is presenting a talk on May 8th from 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. on mood disorders.

The Executive of the Mood Disorders Association, Karen Liberman, will be speaking on mood disorders and their affect on individuals & families. Topics will include: detection, diagnosis and treatment of such conditions as bi-polar disorder, depression, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Seasonal Affective Disorder and others.

A question and answer period will follow the talk.

Refreshments will be served.

For further information, please contact Allan Brand at 416-690-3242 or at merrileebrand@hotmail.com.



# Around the House



## CALLING ALL BOOKIES!

The next Book Club meeting will be following the service on May 16th. The book we will be discussing is *The Brain that Challenges Itself*. The moderator will be Megan Ratcliffe.

## MEMORIES AND PICTURES NEEDED!

Where you at Northwest's first meeting in 1959? Where you at the 31st Anniversary Celebration? Do you have memories of yard sales, social events, special services? Did you grow up with the RE program? What are your first memories of Fellowship House? Did you ever meet Ordway Lloyd? We want to hear from you to help put together a collection of memories for our 50th Celebration. Please email, mail or call Grace with your memories. (ufnwt@bellnet.ca). Or, perhaps you have a piece of memorabilia we could borrow for our celebration.

## CAMEO - Movie: *Food Inc.*

When: Thursday, May 27th

Time: 11:30 a.m.

What: Enjoy lunch and an afternoon movie with us. After discussion at our April CAMEO lunch we have decided to show the film, *Food Inc.*, an unflattering look inside America's corporate controlled food industry. We will watch the movie for half an hour, enjoy lunch, and then watch the remaining hour of the film while enjoying dessert.

Please RSVP to Grace by Monday, May 24th. (Cost for lunch is \$5.00).

Hope to see you there!

## HELP NEEDED—MAYBE

Don't the daffodils look great this year? And the peonies are just beginning to set their buds. However, we **may** need some help on the morning of Saturday, June 12th to help Andrew whip the gardens into shape for our big celebrations the following weekend! We'll keep you posted closer to the date...

## Give it a Moment's Thought . . .

What you get from achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals. ~ Goethe



## 50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

*Celebrating Our Past, Sharing Our Future*

June 19th & 20th, 2010

- **RSVP by May 1st** to Northwest 416-249-8769/ufnwt@bellnet.ca
- 50th Anniversary Donations/Contributions will be gratefully accepted